

The Church of God



Evangel



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"He . . . yet speaketh."

Here you see the late Rev. E. W. Williams in one of his natural pulpit positions. This was during one of his North Carolina state camp meetings. He directed the building of this great tabernacle while he was state overseer of North Carolina. On pages 2 and 3 I am giving you one of the very timely messages that Brother Williams left in print.



A CALL FOR UNITED EFFORT

By Rev. E. W. Williams, Deceased July 15, 1951

This article was to his ministers in November, 1948, while he was State Overseer of North Carolina.

Numbers 32:1-33—The children of Reuben and the children of Gad sought their inheritance on this side of Jordan. But Moses said, "Shall your brethren go to war, and shall ye sit here?" (V. 6.)

One important lesson we should learn from this chapter is that all the Lord's people have a common cause. In these days of trouble and perplexity, when we see nations and kingdoms are falling and the Church is facing one of the greatest crises of its history, there is a call for a united effort on the part of every child of God. There should be displayed in the life of everyone all the elements of Christian courage.

It has been said that what has been attributed as ferocity to the tiger is due to its "incredible audacity and courage." It simply sees no danger, knows no fear, brooks no delay, uses no artifice, and abandons no object of attack. Are these the elements of Christian courage? If we were filled with a deep sense of God's presence and power, and of our own privileges and responsibilities, would this not blind us to many of the things that disturb and terrify, and inspire to many an act and work which we now dread? "Be strong and of good courage," Deut. 31:6.

Though there were twelve tribes, yet were they all brethren? (V. 6.) The weakening or strengthening of one was the weakening or strengthening of the whole. Though we may live in different territories or fields of labor, and our rank of position may differ, yet are we not brethren? Each of us should be interested in whatever concerns the kingdom of God. We feel that every department of the Church concerns the kingdom of God—Sunday School, Y.P.E., Bible School, Evangel, orphanage, missions, evangelism, etc. These worthy causes vitally concern the promoting of the kingdom of God. Here is where the battle begins; therefore, there are many battlefronts which call for united action on the part of everyone. The children of Reuben and the children of Gad sought

their inheritance on this side of Jordan. There are some battles, conflicts, and hardships across Jordan. It seems that there are too many Reubenites and Gadites who want to settle down and obtain their inheritance by the way of least resistance. They seem not to think of the welfare of others. Somebody fought at the battlefront of our deliverance. It was through the medium of evangelism, Sunday School, Y.P.E., or some of the other programs of the Church that the light was brought to us. Someone gave, prayed, sacrificed, and "crossed Jordan" that we might possess the wonderful experience of salvation.

One of the greatest dangers to the Lord's work is putting self-interest first. The Reubenites said, "Let this land be given unto thy servants for a possession, and bring us not over Jordan." It is too easy to settle down in Jazer and Gilead, and let others look out for themselves. A selfish disposition discourages others. "Wherefore discourage ye the heart of the children of Israel from going over into the land." (V. 7.) The selfish spirit not only refuses to cooperate in the Church's program, but it tends to discourage those who are in the pursuit of their duties toward God and the Church. No battles, no sacrifices, no burdens, thus we become idlers in the realm of professed Christianity. Take heed lest there be in any of you an evil heart of laziness! When bees have finished the business of swarming, and the workers have discovered there is no lack of queens, then they, with one accord, fall on the drones, who are massacred without mercy. Thus nature, in these busy bees, passes the sentence of death upon the useless idler. This is also a law in the spiritual world. Those Christians who will not work for the good of Christ's cause among men will be visited with the blight of death upon their spirits.

Doing nothing is a sin against the Lord. "If ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the Lord: and be sure your sin will find you out." (V.23.) When we become contented and satisfied in neglecting our responsibilities, and fail to do our part in the great campaign of the Church work, it will become a sin against the Lord that

will be sure to find us out. To become at ease in Zion is a dangerous condition, and it will lead to destruction and eternal woe.

There are many who are lamenting over lost blessings, and you will hear so many say, "We do not have the power that we used to have, and we need to get back to Pentecost." If that condition prevails, it is because we have lost the desire to help and bless others. We are too well satisfied to dwell on this side of Jordan, and let others get their possession the best way they can. Devotion to the interest of the kingdom of God secures present blessings. "If ye will go armed before the Lord until he hath driven out his enemies, this land shall be your possession." (vv. 20-22.) By helping others into their lot of inheritance we can have and maintain our experience that we received at the cross and in the adorning of the Holy Ghost with all the power and blessings that accompanied it. The reason so many Christians have not entered into a soul-satisfying portion in the present life is because they have ceased to help others. There is no class of the disciples of Jesus so happy as the WORKERS. It will be useless for us to respond to the call without the equipment for the battle. "If ye will go armed before the Lord." Our efforts will be in vain without the anointing for service; especially for evangelism we will need a full head of evangelistic steam. It is very suggestive that the word "breath" literally means "steam," something gentle, yet most powerful, from a warm and glowing source. "Come, O breath, and breathe," Ezek. 37:9. The Holy Ghost is the breath of God, the gentle, glowing, all powerful steam of the Almighty. A preacher filled with the Holy Ghost has the steam always up. It is easy driving when you have plenty of steam on, but oh, how stiff when this heavenly motor is absent! The way to keep the steam up is to have a heart set on fire of love to God. When we welcome the Holy Ghost into our life He will shed abroad the love of God in our hearts.

Then the battles, conflicts, trials and persecutions on the other side of Jordan will kindle that love into a flame that will enable us to pray as Peter did, "Now, Lord . . . grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, By stretching forth thine hand to heal," Acts 4:29, 30. Great boldness is needed to

preach God's Word. There are too many who are ready to threaten when His Word is courageously spoken. Then if you do not have anointing of God's power you will beat a retreat. But, after all, something more is needed if souls are to be wounded with a sense of sin. Unless His hand is stretched forth with His Word, no healing power will be felt. The hand of God's Spirit is greatly hindered where there is doubting and fearfulness; but don't let us imagine that our boldness and faithfulness alone will suffice to bring souls to Christ. We must remember that it is the "Spirit that quickeneth." Along with our testimony there must be stretched forth that Almighty and invisible hand that can lay hold on the hearts of the ungodly and turn them whithersoever He will. When His hand is stretched forth, signs and wonders will be done. The enemy will be driven out, souls will be brought into the kingdom, and the great Church of God will move on, fulfilling its purpose.

REPORTS

TRAFFORD, ALA., CHURCH PUTS PROGRAM OVER

The Lord Jesus has let His blessings rest upon us here at the Trafford church in a special spirit of unity and cooperation, which has resulted in our raising the \$1.00 per member for Lee College, a total of \$75, also this year's offering for our aged ministers, amounting to \$7.50. This within itself testifies to the fact that the Trafford Church is constituted of a splendid group of members, and it is indeed a pleasure to be their pastor.—Clyde M. Helms, Pastor.

NEW JERSEY CONVENTION

The New Jersey convention was a blessing to all who attended. The inspirational preaching and singing elevated each of us to heavenly places. We are grateful to James A. Cross, state overseer of Pennsylvania; G. W. Lane, overseer of Delaware, Maryland, and Washington, D. C.; Henry C. Stoppe; William F. Morris; Edwin Tull; and J. Mercardo, for their wonderful messages; also, Sister Shepherd, the Josephsens, the Lanes, and Cottrell brothers, for their singing. After an inspiring message by Rev. L. Chesser, General Overseer, a mission offering of above \$700 was received. Of this amount, the Millville Church, under the able leadership of Sister Hanley, contributed over \$500. The Millville Church also gave over \$100 for the Orphanage. The host church, under the guidance of Brother Josephsen, arranged for pleasant accommodations for all who stayed in the city for the convention. Sister

Josephsen, her family, and Sister Drumm, along with others, served some fine meals. Thanks are extended to the Adamses for the lovely apartment used by the state overseer and family.—Walter R. Pettitt, State Overseer.

NEW YORK STATE CONVENTION

The Lord met with us graciously in both services. Brother Chesser blessed the hearts of the people with his solid, down-to-earth preaching. A mission offering exceeding last year's amount was freely given. The Spanish people sang us all happy. Brother Lugo had a fine delegation from his church. Each pastor gave a brief report of his year's work, which proved a blessing because it showed increases in almost all phases of the work. Sister Mendes' church was 100 per cent in raising all quotas. Brother Berglund showed some pictures of his mission work among the Gypsies, which emphasized greatly our responsibility in this great territory of 17 million people.—Walter R. Pettitt, State Overseer.

ENCOURAGEMENT

Sometimes our load gets heavy,
The way grows dark and dim.
We pray and seek for comfort;
It seems we cannot win.
The tears begin falling;
We tremble with such fear.
The cross it is so heavy;
We're sinking in despair.
There's no one here to help us;
All worldly help is gone.
And then we hear that
Still small voice that whispers,
"Just hold on."
A few more days to battle
With Satan and his foes.
The battle will be ended;
Temptation's door will close.
We'll sail away to heaven,
Across the deep blue tide,
And with our loving Saviour
We'll evermore abide.

—Mrs. Bernice Britt, Hope Mills, N. C.

THE KINDNESS OF CHARITY

I heard of a gracious American hostess whose foreign guest was not accustomed to finger bowls. When they appeared at the close of the dinner, the guest, after a moment's hesitation, lifted his bowl and drank out of it. Several other guests were about to choke with merriment at such a blunder; but the hostess quietly raised her own bowl, and put it to her lips, and took a sip from it. That warned the others not to dip their fingers into their bowls. Some people would say that the guest ought to have been told better, but most of us would say that the hostess did a gracious thing. Two questions come to mind at once about it. Should we have thought to do that? Many of us would not. But, if we had thought of it, would we have done it? It takes a certain amount of moral courage to do some kindly things, even simple things like that.—*Christian Endeavor World.*

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DECLARATION OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE

1. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible.
2. In one God eternally existing in three persons; namely, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
3. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead; that He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor.
4. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and that repentance is commanded of God for all and necessary for forgiveness of sins.
5. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ.
6. In sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ; through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost.
7. Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people.
8. In the baptism with the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart.
9. In speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance, and that it is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost.
10. In water baptism by immersion, and all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.
11. Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement.
12. In the Lord's Supper and washing of the saints' feet.
13. In the premillennial second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second, to reign on the earth a thousand years.
14. In the bodily resurrection; eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked.

Foreign Missions

J. H. Walker, Sr., Executive Missions Secretary

Devastating Hurricane Hits Jamaica

A devastating hurricane hit Jamaica Friday night, August 17, and Saturday morning, August 18, leaving 148 dead; hundreds of millions of dollars worth of property destroyed; tens of thousands homeless; crops ruined; and many thousands to die of starvation if help is not given.

That hurricane whirling at 130 miles per hour, flattened towns and villages to the ground, leaving the capital city, Kingston, in rubbish and debris, blocking many streets. Three of our own church houses in Kingston were destroyed. When one of them crashed, it killed a woman living in a little house near by.

Two letters from our Rev. A. W. Brummett, Superintendent of the New Testament Church of God (the title under which we operate in Jamaica), state that 24 of our churches are completely destroyed; many of them blown away entirely.

The wife of Elder J. L. Gooden, overseer of St. Thomas Parish, was killed. The town was completely destroyed, with not one building left standing. Brother Gooden's home, furniture, and clothing went, also. All the roads being blocked, they built a rough box, dressed Sister Gooden in an old dress, placed her in it, and buried her in the church yard littered with debris.

Brother Brummett writes that he saw eight persons dead at one place, and every one of our members he met in St. Thomas Parish had lost their homes and their crops, and had nothing to eat. Read the excerpts from Brother Brummett's letter which follow:

"Dear Brother Walker:

"I am sure you have already heard of the devastating hurricane that laid waste a big portion of this island this past Friday night, the 18th. I have not been able to ascertain the full extent of damage to our property, but will give you what I have.

"In Kingston three of our churches are down; namely, Franklin Town, Barbican Road, and Gold Street. The Gold Street property was not ours; we rented it. These churches are smashed flat to the ground. When the Franklin Town church fell, it killed a woman

that lived near by.

"But the worst disaster that I have found yet was in the Parish of St. Thomas, some thirty miles from Kingston. Our parish overseer's wife was among the dead there, Elder J. L. Gooden's wife. Do you remember forwarding to me a letter to Brother Paul H. Walker from a lady here desiring a hat? Well, she is the woman . . . We have seven churches on this parish; five of them are torn to splinters, and part of the debris completely blown away. The two that remain standing are just wrecks . . . Brother Gooden lived in a little place by the name of Heartease. Every house in this place is a complete wreck; only one that had any wall at all standing. Two other of our pastors lived in this same village; they owned their homes there, but the homes are gone.

"With the homes went everything the people had—all their furniture and clothing. I brought Brother Gooden (the man that lost his wife) into town with me yesterday. All the clothes he had were in rags. He didn't have a white shirt or tie to wear into town. I didn't find a member in this parish but what had lost their home. Their crops are all gone, and they have nothing to eat . . . I am doing the best I can to help in this emergency.

"Other parishes than those mentioned have been hit hard, but I do not know the extent of the damage. I will make a survey of the entire island and inform you as to the amount of damage done to our property.

"I am working to salvage all the usable material from the churches that are down, and will do all I can to erect new ones. I am sure I will have to ask you for some help in this later on. Please rest assured that I will do all in my power to relieve the suffering of our people; also, I will put forth every effort to hold the people together until we can arrange places of worship.

"August 23: Since writing you yesterday of the dreadful hurricane that hit this island, I have received other reports that are very bad. We have

now 24 churches that are completely down and hundreds of our people are homeless; a number of the preachers lost everything; they don't even have a decent shirt left. I haven't been able to get a complete report from the entire island, as all travel and communication has been completely cut off in some places.

" . . . There is a sweet spirit of fellowship prevailing now among the ministers, and this will be a great asset in pulling out of this crisis.

"Thy brother sincerely,
A. W. Brummett
Overseer of Jamaica"

USED CLOTHING NEEDED! We earnestly plead with you to send good used summer clothing (it is summertime there the year around) for the distressed, suffering, homeless people of Jamaica. While the Government and the Red Cross will rush food and some clothing to these starving people, they must have more clothing.

If you want to send it directly to them, mail it in cartons weighing not over 22 pounds. Mark it "USED CLOTHING FOR FREE DISTRIBUTION." Or if you send it to us, we will repack it and ship it immediately.

BUILD A MEMORIAL CHURCH! At least 24 churches destroyed and the people left with little to build. They need your help; they would gladly welcome your furnishing materials so they can reconstruct a house of worship. Sister Gooden, who wrote and asked for a straw hat, needs no hat now, she has gone to her reward, but her bereaved husband needs a church house for his people and a place of shelter as he carries on.

You have raised the most money for missions of any previous year in our history, but this is a tragedy, a catastrophe, a crisis, an emergency. Will you not take the building of one of these churches as an extra project, and erect a memorial in that needy field? Write us for an estimated cost.

J. H. Walker, Sr.

Executive Missions Secretary.

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THE CHURCH OF GOD EVANGEL

Christian Readiness

By PAUL H. WALKER, State Overseer of Ohio

To be ready means "to be prepared at the moment; quick; prompt; fit for a purpose; willing." Readiness should be our slogan for 1951.

The apostle Peter states in 1 Peter 3:15, "But sanctify the Lord God in your heart, and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you the reason of the hope that is in you, with meekness and with fear." The Weymouth Translation states, "But in your hearts consecrate Christ as Lord, being always ready to make your dissent to any one who asks from you a reason for the hope which you cherish." The Moffat Translation gives it: "Have no fear of their frets. Do not let that trouble you, but reverence Christ as Lord in your own hearts. Always be ready with a reply for anyone who calls you to account for the hope that you cherish, but answer justly and with a sense of reverence." The Syriac Translation states: "But sanctify the Lord, the Messiah, in your heart and be ye ready for a vindication before everyone who demandeth of you an account of the hope of your faith."

Yes, the Scripture sets forth the fact that we are to "earnestly contend (fight) for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."

Never in the history of civilization has there been such a demand for an answer to the world of the faith and the reason of our faith as there is today. And, that answer cannot be given unless we have a good conscience toward all men. The reason for that is as the apostle stated, "Sanctify the Lord God in your heart." The reason for such a sanctification is in the next clause, "And be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is within you with meekness and fear." So, that is the experience of sanctification, which means that we are to be set apart for a holy use, a vessel dedicated to His honor and glory. We will not be able to give the answer that the poor, wandering, wayward, and lost soul demands unless we are consecrated. And if we could give it, from a standpoint of our intellectual ability, it would be lifeless, because there would be no reality to back it up. This sanctification comes through the consecration of our lives to God, at an old-fashioned altar; wherever that altar may be, will be determined when we make the dedication.

So, let us renew our consecration and let us be determined to be so sanctified that we will fulfill our duty of love to Him in the readiness of service for His glory.

THE MINISTER

The minister must be ready, also. Yes, he must be *ready to preach*. In Romans 1:15, we read, "So as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gos-

pel to you that are at Rome also." The apostle Paul was possessed with something within that made him state freely and clearly, "I am ready." Paul was ready to preach the good news of the gospel to them who were at Rome. Paul, in the sixteenth verse, showed that it was a whole gospel, for the whole man, in the whole world. It was something that was ready to work in the life of the one who would willingly receive it. So, preachers, we must be ready to preach in the highways, hedges, brush arbors, street corners, halls, and churches, wherever the door is open; in jails, poor houses, penal institutions, orphanages, and beside the beds of those who are sick and afflicted. Too many of us are too ready to let these opportunities slip by. We forget that our eternal reward is wrapped up for us, to be presented after we have come to the end of the race, and that souls brought to God will determine whether or not we "shine as the brightness of the firmament and as the stars for ever and ever." The apostle Paul said, "So as much as in me is." Everything that he had, in muscle, fibre, every particle of his intelligence, strength, vigor, vitality, all that he had was ready to preach the gospel. For as much as in him was, was dedicated to the task of telling the good story. He didn't get a big salary for this. He did get his head cut off at the chopping block. But, thank God, he has another by now, and it will be crowned with victory and glory at the crowning day.

In 1 Timothy 6:17-19, we read, "Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy, that they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate, laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life." Here we have another readiness, a readiness around which revolves the humility of mind, distrust in riches, but trust in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; around it revolves the privilege of doing good and being rich in good works; around it lies the readiness to distribute and the willingness to communicate. And in so doing, we lay up in store a good foundation against the time to come. It grants us the privilege of laying hold on eternal life, so that we must be ready to promote the mission cause in our efforts of distribution and communication; ready to support the Orphanage; ready to extend a helping hand wherever we find a needy hand to clasp; ready to do service, whether it is to lead the singing, render specials, play musical instruments, attend the prayer meetings, teach a Sunday School class; or serve

in any other capacity in which we may be called to serve. This is Christian readiness. Ready for every good work. Titus 3:1, 2, "Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work, to speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, but gentle, showing all meekness unto all men."

The Lord says, "My soul shall have no pleasure in them that draw back." Again He says, "He that putteth his hand to the plow and looketh back is not fit for the kingdom." Still again He said, "We shall reap in due season if we faint not." Our thought in this verse is "to be ready to every good work, speaking evil of no man, not a brawler, but gentle, showing all meekness unto all men." The entire third chapter of the book of Titus is a wonderful chapter. It would be well for us to read it slowly and carefully and see the blessing that is contained therein.

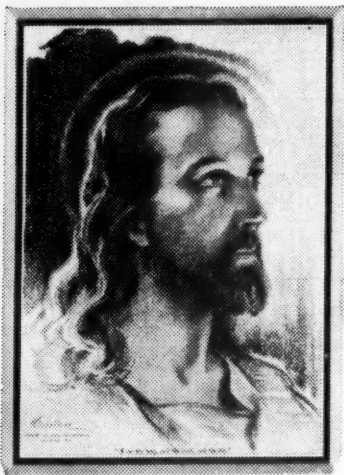
READY TO DIE

Acts 21:13 reads, "What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart, for I am ready, not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus." Glory be to His name forevermore! Yes, to die for the name of the Lord Jesus certainly makes us realize how small we are, when we do so little in the light of the life of the sainted apostle Paul.

Many of us draw our fine salaries. We have our homes provided. We have fine members who look out after our welfare, and sometimes we are so negligent to fulfill our duty. Our reports come in late. Sometimes we forget to send the aged ministers' money in. We forget about the other little things we can do that will promote the cause of God. We are sometimes reluctant to mention the cause of missions, the orphans, home missions, and many other things of interest; then the need in our immediate communities—visitations that we should make and fail to make them. My, how we should check our activities in the light of the enthusiasm and the burden that caused the bosom of the apostle Paul to heave with a yearning for the lost—all based on the fact that Jesus died for him, for he said, "I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die." He knew he was jumping, as it were, into a lion's mouth, and he sensed the fact that he would die, and he did die. It was just a splash of holy blood and the quiver of a tired body and the soul of the sainted apostle winged its way to the paradise of God. He was not only ready to preach, but he was ready to die—all because of his love for the Man of Galilee.

We must be ready to meet the Lord, for He said, "Be ye also ready, for in such an hour as you think not, the Son of man cometh." We must look for Him morning, noon, and night—any day, any hour. In these last and crucial days, He may split the skies, leave the mediatorial throne, with the voice of the archangel, with the trump of God, and come in His glory and majesty to catch away His waiting church to meet Him in the air. Let's be ready for that all-glorious occasion—an occasion which is the most inspira-

(Continued on page 11)



The Merciful Christ

By Nancy Boling, N. Matewan, W. Va.

Heb. 2:9, 16-18, "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. Wherefore in all things it behooved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted."

I am persuaded to believe that every person who has been converted to a new life with Christ, and even before, has called on His worthy name time and time again for mercy. But just what is mercy? Have you ever stopped to seriously think about mercy? We have heard and read of it so much that too many of us take it for granted, without stopping to consider the real meaning of this great and outstanding characteristic of Jesus. Webster's New Standard Dictionary gives the following definition: "Mercy is the disposition to forgive; spare or pity; remission, forbearance or patience; compassion; active goodness." Let us now look back to the text, and there we notice that Jesus chose to be made like unto His brethren so that He might be a merciful high priest. Christ took upon Himself a body of flesh so that He, too, could be acquainted with the problems, cares, and trials of humanity. He gave up His position in heaven and became the Son of man so that He could perfect a plan of salvation. St. John 1:14, we read the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. Love and mercy for a dying world caused Him to take upon Himself a body of flesh so that the world through Him might be saved from a life of sin and eternal hell.

In the definition we have found that mercy means "a disposition to forgive." Did Jesus have this quality? He most certainly did; even in the

time of His intense suffering on the cross He prayed, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." I wonder how many of us can and are willing to forgive our enemies. Yet, we must extend mercy just as He did. Luke 8:2 states that Jesus forgave a woman who was possessed of seven devils; namely, Mary Magdalene. Later, on the morning of His resurrection, Mary Magdalene was one of the first to visit the sepulchre and there He appeared first to her after He had risen. Doesn't this give us a beautiful picture of perfect and lasting forgiveness? Christ came to save not only the moral person, but also the vilest sinner who has ever lived. We can, therefore, see that Jesus gave His life for the unlovely that they may become pure through His blood.

On another occasion Jesus was traveling in Samaria. At that time the Jews were having no dealings with the Samaritans, and they looked down with great contempt on them. Jesus became thirsty on this trip, thus He stopped at one of Jacob's wells where a woman came to draw water. Jesus said to her (St. John 4:7), "Give me to drink." This meeting was no accident, for Jesus knew the woman would come. Notice carefully that Christ has a purpose in all He does. Since this woman was stooped in sin, she needed forgiveness. Jesus extended His mercy to her when He said these words in John 4:13, 14, "Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again; but whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." Therefore, Christ forgave this woman who had five husbands. Then she began at once to tell others what Jesus had done for her by leaving her waterpots and going into the city and declaring, "Come, see a man, which told me all things I ever did: is not this the Christ?"

The Lord Jesus portrayed His disposition to forgive when He restored unto Peter the joy of his salvation after Peter had denied, and even cursed about, the "one who knew no sin." How wonderful it is to know that Jesus has the power to forgive all who will accept Him. How glad we are that the hand of mercy is extended today.

The definition states that mercy also means pity. Psalm 103 beautifully portrays God's pity. Verses 11-14 definitely show us how merciful Christ is toward man: "For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward them that fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us. Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear Him. For He knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are

dust." Verse 17 states, "But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear Him, and His righteousness unto children's children." This last verse shows us that Jesus has great patience. Patience is part of mercy also. In 2 Peter 3:9, we read, "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." Christ is certainly our example of patience. The above verse proves that the Son of God is patient in that He calls all unto repentance. I do not believe that anyone dies without a chance sometime in life to repent. The Lord Jesus deals with sinful hearts not only once, but many times. Rev. 3:20, "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock; if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." Also, Christ is our example of patience as shown in His temptations in the wilderness right after His baptism by John in the Jordan River. At His trial He was unjustly tried and accused, but He never became angry or impatient. Isaiah tells us that He was despised and rejected of men: a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. He patiently suffered spiritually, as well as mentally and physically, in Gethsemane when He prayed thus, "Father, thy will be done." In those terrible and agonizing hours on the cross, Jesus suffered patiently because He loved men, and the plan of salvation must be perfected. Even in his dying hours He saved the repentant thief. Luke 23:43, "And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise." Even after people have given much of their lives to Satan, Christ patiently waits and calls them from their lives of sin. Sometimes He calls for years before men and women surrender to Him.

Mercy also embraces that great quality we call compassion. We have often heard the Son of God referred to as the compassionate Christ, and truly He is. Jeremiah, in Lam. 3:31 and 32, speaks of the Lord's great compassion: "For the Lord will not cast off forever: But though he cause grief, yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies." Jesus went about the cities and villages doing good. Once when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion on them because they fainted, and were scattered abroad as sheep without a shepherd. One of the greatest needs of all Christians is love and compassion. We can never win souls to Christ by knocking them or by passing them by in their sins. Instead, let us show sin-

(Continued on page 11)

OLD-FASHIONED REVIVALS

TELEGRAM

First West Florida Camp Meeting a great success, with Robert Johnson as evangelist. Scores received definite experiences. The revival still continues. \$2,000 in cash and pledges has been raised for campground and tabernacle.—Paul S. Shoemaker, Pastor, Tallahassee, Fla.

GLASGOW, Ky.—We recently closed a revival in Glasgow which ran 3 weeks. God was most blessed to us during this time. My mother, Mrs. C. H. Standifer, of Shelburn, Ind., was the evangelist. Her sermons were most inspiring, and she preached under the anointing of the Holy Ghost each night. The church was greatly blessed and encouraged by her timely messages. Five were saved, 5 sanctified, 2 filled with the Holy Ghost, and one lady who had been a Christian for 37 years and a member of the Methodist Church received the Holy Ghost. We appreciate Mother's services in this revival and feel that she will be a blessing to any church.—Frank Standifer, Pastor.

DALTON, Ga.—We have just closed our youth revival at Timms Chapel. The results were 25 saved, 18 sanctified, 13 filled with the Holy Ghost, 11 baptized in water, and 8 added to the church. This is the greatest revival we have had here in years. It was conducted by Evangelist Bobby Jackson and wife, of Asheville, N. C. They were a blessing to the church with their gospel singing and playing, which added greatly to the interest and success of the revival.—Oscar L. Jackson, Pastor.

DAYTON, Tenn.—On July 9, we began our revival out in the country at Brother Ebb Hall's house, and it lasted for 10 nights. God met with us in every service. One was saved, and all who attended these services were blessed by the presence of the Holy Ghost, and all felt the need of a closer walk with God. Our faith mounted up to do more for the Lord. One was healed. This meeting was my first revival. Pray for me. I want to do more to try to win lost souls to Christ.—Mrs. Florence A. Long, 823 Alton Place, Dayton, Tenn.

ATTAPULGUS, Ga.—We have just closed a two and one-half weeks' revival with Brother L. C. Allen doing the preaching. His dynamic messages, fired by the Holy Ghost, greatly blessed everyone. Fourteen were baptized in water, 4 saved, 4 sanctified, 4 filled with the Holy Ghost, 4 added to the church, and 2 backsliders came back to God. Brother Allen prayed for the sick and many were healed. Sister Bennett was the pianist throughout

the revival, accompanied by Brother Allen and our pastor, Brother Hubert Moss, with guitars. Brother and Sister Allen blessed our souls with their Spirit-filled songs. Brother Allen will receive a new guitar from the church soon, showing our love and appreciation for having them with us. The revival spirit is still with us, and we are pressing on to victory for our blessed Lord.—Mrs. Myrle Bennett, Clerk.

HAMLINTOWN, Tenn.—We have just closed a few nights' meeting at Hamlintown where Brother James E. Bostic is pastor. We had a good time in the Lord, and the power fell in a wonderful way. Two were reclaimed, and one was sanctified and baptized with the Holy Ghost. That is a new church, and the Lord is blessing Brother Bostic in the work. Pray for them.—E. H. Long.

GASTONIA, N. C.—The South Gastonia Church of God, located on Carolina Avenue, has just closed one of the most successful revivals in the history of the church, with Rev. F. H. Collier as the evangelist. Rev. Collier delivered some wonderful sermons, with the presence and power of God being manifested in each service. We are happy to report that of the 31 saved, 23 sanctified, and 25 baptized with the Holy Ghost, 34 united with the church and 19 were baptized in water. We, also, broke all past Sunday School records during this revival with 733 present.—Rev. Ray Collins, Pastor.

LUDVILLE, Ga.—We have just closed a great revival conducted by Rev. J. B. Weeks. The full-gospel messages were brought forth under the anointing of the Holy Ghost, and souls were convicted, coming to the altar crying out for mercy, and God wonderfully saved them. There were 9 saved, 8 sanctified, 8 baptized with the Holy Ghost, 5 added to the church, and 5 baptized in water. The church was wonderfully blessed, and we have a greater determination to press forward toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.—Eulis Young, Pastor.

KENNEDY, Ala.—We began a revival at the Cody Church of God with Rev. G. C. Dunn, Sr., as the evangelist. The Lord blessed in a marvelous way. Brother Dunn preached in the old time way, with the power and demonstration of the Holy Ghost. God worked in a wonderful way, and large crowds attended. The evangelist was with us only one week. Our good pastor, Brother Rolan Dunn, conducted the revival through the second week. We are happy to have these good God-sent workers to come our way. We are expecting the great-

est year here at Cody we have ever had. Our Sunday School has already doubled in attendance, and the offerings have more than doubled. We feel that under the leadership of our good pastor our church will rise and shine for Jesus. People are encouraged and looking this way. We have put in a nice water system valued at \$500 since Brother and Sister Dunn have been here. Rolan and Ruth are heard daily at 10:45 over Station WWWW, Fayette, Ala. Pray for us.—Evangelist Gertrude Nolen, Reporter.

HICKORY GROVE, S. C.—We have just closed a revival here, with Brother Aaron Rochester, of Whitmire, S. C., as the evangelist. He certainly was a blessing to us. The Holy Ghost was manifested in a great way, and part of the time Brother Rochester didn't have to preach. Souls were in the altar almost every service. Pray for our church here.—Betty Harris.

CHINA GROVE, N. C.—We have just closed a wonderful revival at the Church of God here in China Grove, North Carolina, with Evangelist A. V. Childers, of Asheville, North Carolina. There were from 12 to 30 people in the altar every night, and a goodly number received definite experiences from the Lord. A daily radio program was conducted from the church auditorium by Brother Childers. There were thousands of daily listeners throughout this section of the State. On the last Sunday of this revival the Sunday School attendance record was broken with 230. Brother Childers preached nightly under the anointing of the Holy Ghost. Eternity alone will reveal the true results of this mighty revival. Some of the finest and most consecrated Christians in the world are members of the Church here. We thank God for them. We covet an interest in your prayers.—T. W. Day, Pastor, Church of God, China Grove, North Carolina.

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Our tent revival followed the Oral Roberts healing campaign. Already there was a revival spirit throughout the entire city, and from the first night of the revival till the last souls were praying through; this was a godsend, and will live on and on in the hearts and lives of men and women. The Homer Miller evangelistic party was with us, and may I pause here to say that Sister Miller is a wonderful preacher and will do any church good. There were 14 saved, 7 sanctified, and 12 filled with the Holy Ghost. We saw sinners leave the tent under the mighty power of conviction who should have been in the altar praying through to old time salvation. This is a needy field, and we covet your prayers that God will continue to save sinners. Our chapel is located at 1605 Clay Street.—Merle H. Greene.

Not an High Priest Which Cannot - -

By REV. JOSEPH L. MILLIGAN, Pastor, Bonne Terre, Missouri

Hebrews 4:15, "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin."

After earnest imploration of divine direction and inspiration, this message is humbly offered to the tortured, tormented, and downtrodden. Sympathy is a wonderful, priceless commodity seldom displayed these days. Selfishness is insinuating itself very artfully and insidiously into the hearts of the very elect. Men all around us manifest many times every day that they are gluttonous, squeamish, and avaricious. Just today a good Christian lady was informing me of the lack of concern of her community toward a family that is suffering from the keen pinch of poverty, whose breadwinner had thoughtlessly and heartlessly deserted them, and whose overworked and underfed mother was forced to jeopardize the security of her many little ones to leave them to care for themselves while she entered a factory to earn a meager living by her moistened brow. I retorted with harnessed madness, "My God, can it be true that able-bodied and sensible men can stand idly by and watch the innocent suffer those privations? Why, the time was when the souls of strong men would have writhed within them and would have suffered paroxysms of grief at the deplorable sight of such! But NOW, NOW, NOW it is entirely different!" And it is different. Incredible, but true is it that men who are possessed with the means of becoming great benefactors of their generation gaze upon the unfortunate as if they might be saying to themselves, "You take care of yourself; I'll do likewise. After all, self-preservation is the first law in life. I believe in survival of the fittest." And with hearts of adamant, they go their merry way. I feel it is utterly impossible for one who has fellowshiped the sensitive Christ and His sufferings to look upon the underprivileged without feeling compassion for them.

Jesus said, "The poor ye have with you always," and we have seen this truth exemplified many times. In our larger cities thousands live like ani-

mals, crowded into dirty, cramped quarters, reeking with putrefaction and corruption, the air literally filled with every breed of disease. The children are left to FIGHT their way through life, while the parents wallow in debauchery. The children are taught early to steal, fight and lie. With distorted minds and depraved souls they live and die like swine.

The slums of our cities are overrun with libertines, debauchees, and castaways of society simply because few people are interested in ameliorating their circumstances and surroundings. This damnable apathy toward the poor is hatching infidels, God-haters, sex-crazed maniacs and perversion of our oncoming generation. This is anything but trivial. These bloody holocausts that are being waged with immeasurable fury over the world today are nothing short of the aftermath of indifference and selfishness. Greedy men who desire to oppress the common folk and rule the enslaved millions declare war for the acquisition of peoples and territories. They care nothing for their subjects and less for God. They dislike everything that is clean, noble, upright and godly. They disdain religion, confiscate church property, and murder the prophets of the Most High. Heartless tyrants are they, holding dangerous despotic power.

It appears that many today think of God as a cruel dictator, sitting on the throne of the universe, His arms resting on brazen lions, His hands grasping a long whip with which He toys with His creation like a cat would a mouse, teasing and tiring it before the inevitable slaughter. Nothing could be more erroneous. He is a God of love. He is Tenderness itself. He is Compassion personified. He waits like a longing, loving Father awaiting His children to scamper up in His big lap, that He may caress them gently and affectionately and wipe their tears from their eyes. With benedictions in each hand He stands waiting patiently to bless all who on His name will call in faith believing. Paul must have had a vision after this sort when he wrote the pithy words of my text, "For we have NOT an high priest which cannot

be touched with the feeling of our infirmities."

The Book of all books informs me that in the fifth chapter of Mark's account of the ministry of Christ there was a great crowd of disturbed people elbowing each other this way and that, the Young Carpenter of Nazareth in the midst of all the commotion. He was, as He has always done in all subsequent centuries, causing a great stir. There was a very sick woman of twelve years' invalidism in the jostling crowd. There are scholars who say her name was Martha, while others contend it was Veronica. The Bible does not tell us her name, but it does indicate that she was very sick. I can imagine that if you could have visited her home, you would have found every available shelf filled with medicines of all descriptions. Every doctor in that little village must have known just where her house was, for, doubtlessly, they had all been there many times. In her search for health, she had possibly tried every suggested cure of her day. People are always full of suggestions when they visit sick rooms of the suffering, and they, even in that ancient day, must have offered every traditional remedy that had been handed down. The helpless woman must have pulled herbs of every field and forest, made the tea, as prescribed, and must have drunk many distasteful concoctions, to no avail. With medical science in its undeveloped stage, she must have been beaten and mauled and hacked mercilessly by those crude physicians. She had spent all she had for medicines and for surgical services until her "purse was as exhausted as her body." But still, her illness lingered.

The people of her day must have thought her crazy to get into the swarming mob, and some probably advised her to go home and to bed before she expired; but she kept pressing her way through the crowd toward the Christ. She possibly stopped many times on her journey and rested, biting her lip, distorting her face, and crying freely because of the intense pain. Because of her long suffering, she had been left so weak she might

have fallen many times had not the pressing crowd held her up. She must have made several attempts to touch His robe, reaching almost far enough, but just missing it; but, praise God! she kept trying. That, incidentally, is the reason many fail to touch the Master today. They try once and if a miracle is not performed, they leave in disgust and disappointment, and declare there is nothing to religion. Perseverance has its reward. "Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great RECOMPENSE OF REWARD, for ye have need of PATIENCE," states the Blessed Book.

After countless attempts, she finally gets the tip of her finger against the blue fringe that hung down His seamless robe, and long-awaited health shot back into her shattered nerves, sunken arteries, gasping lungs and dried-up muscles. Roseate, rubicund, youthful health! One writer stated, "The twelve years' march of pain and pang and suffering over suspension bridge of nerve and through tunnel of bone instantly halted." Hallelujah!

Note with gladness the Saviour's reaction to the touch. He felt it and stopped in His tracks, turning around and looking upon the pushing mob. As He looked at that sea of expectant faces, His lips parted and from them fell these words, "Who touched me?" The indignant crowd was a mite aggravated that such a ridiculous question would be asked them, and they proceeded to inform Christ that He couldn't expect to get in such a crowd without being brushed against. But that information was insufficient. He knew more than they knew. He felt something they had not felt. He perceived that virtue had gone from His body. A touch of faith had withdrawn power from His body, and He felt it leap from Him. Then the rejuvenated and resuscitated woman came meekly forward, and, with voice quaking with emotion, she made her confession of the touch of faith that brought her much-desired healing. Had Christ been the cruel tyrant some believe Him to be today, He would have turned on her, with eyes flashing fire, and with tongue railing imprecations, and with omnipotent hands pulling thunderbolts from the armory of God to be flung seething upon her for her insolence and audacity. Were He as haughty and hateful and egotistic as uninformed individuals think Him to be, He would have spoken her into oblivion for laying her puny, diseased



Rev. Joseph L. Milligan is one of our younger ministers. He was licensed as minister 8721, Jan. 26, 1949. He graduated from B.T.S., Sevierville, Tenn. He has been quite successful in (limited) evangelistic work, assistant pastor to Dr. Earl P. Paulk, Greenville, S. C., pastor at Hattiesburg, Miss., and is now realizing success as pastor of the Bonne Terre, Mo., Church. This is one of a number of splendid articles he has contributed to the Evangel.

hand on His garment. But notice His attitude toward her—"DAUGHTER, thy faith hath made thee whole. Go in peace." What a tender expression—"Daughter!" Again I say He is Tenderness itself. What a glorious revelation of His true nature is Mark's story of this healing.

I am afraid that in our desire to esteem Him as He should be, and to praise Him in our limited manner, we talk of Him on such a vast scale as to almost make Him inaccessible to the starving soul. We speak of Him in the infinite and fail to tell of Him in the infinitesimal. True He is big, but He is within the reach of the soul of man. He is always thrilled with the touch of the believing prayer of His children. By faith, we touch Him and receive of His power and His grace for our earthly struggles. The sufferings of Christ have never been adequately described and possibly never will be until He tells us about them in His own words. When "he sees the travail of his soul and is satisfied," perhaps He will give us the untold truths of His earthly conflict. But in searching

the Scriptures, our hearts recoil at the brutal treatment inflicted on Him by bestial man. When He was in the sham trial and was struck on the cheek by the hand of hate, His lovely cheek must have tingled with a burning, stinging sensation. Yet, "he opened not his mouth." While He was under the indescribable scourging, the rod striking His innocent back, making torrents of gore to go rushing down the spine, He must have writhed in torture; but, "he opened not his mouth." And yet, when a little, wasted woman of twelve years' suffering touched Him with her trembling, nerveless finger, He turned around and said, "Who touched me?"

Why don't you touch Him for your cure today? Your cure may be mental, physical or spiritual, but praise God, He has the remedy. But you say, "My case is so hopeless and my struggle has been of such long duration." This invalid's case was diagnosed as hopeless and her struggle had gone on for a dozen painful years. There were many people between her and the Christ she was striving to reach, but she pressed her way through. And I say, friend, whatever may be between you and Him, it behooves you to press around or over it and touch Him. Nothing in all the world is comparable to the Master's touch! Even if there is domestic infelicity in your home, He has the cure, and He is definitely interested. When Mary and Martha lost their beloved brother Lazarus, "Jesus wept" along with them. Not only was He touched and moved with compassion over their loss, but He corrected the maladjustment and resurrected the dead brother. He not only weeps because you are distressed, but He waits to make the necessary adjustments in your case. Another says, "I am so insignificant, the Lord does not know me. He is so preoccupied in governing, regulating, and operating this tremendous universe that He has no time for me. These wars that are going on keep Him busy. The forces of evil are waging constant war against the armies of righteousness and all that keeps Him busy. He doesn't have time for me!" Listen, discouraged one, Jesus was on His way that day to perform a miracle that was to be praised for many centuries afterward, yet He "turned around" to pronounce a blessing on the penniless woman. Hallelujah! However intricate and complicated may be His varied and innumerable tasks, He has time

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What Do You Know About I. P. I.?

The last of May I had the privilege of going with Brother Paul H. Walker, our state overseer and Chairman of the Church of God Missions Board, to the graduating exercises of I.P.I. at San Antonio, Texas. I had heard much about I.P.I. while attending Lee College, but while visiting with the students and faculty at San Antonio, I learned the half had not been told me. So at Brother Walker's request, I am happy to write some history and facts concerning I.P.I.

The Beginning of the International Preparatory Institute

The International Preparatory Institute (I.P.I.) arose out of the zeal of its president, Rev. Vessie D. Hargrave. About five years ago, Brother Hargrave's vision became active, and by September 1, 1947, the Institute opened with thirty-two students from six foreign countries and the United States. The second year it opened with forty-three students. This last year there were sixty-four students with thirteen countries represented; namely Cuba, Colombia, Puerto Rico, Peru, Chile, Guatemala, Mexico, Dominican Republic, Panama, Nicaragua, Honduras, British Honduras, and United States.

The Purpose and Aim

One of the most outstanding aims of the School was to supply an institution where Latin and Anglo-American students could train for missionary work. Thanks be unto God, we have one now. The work that is being done in this school is thorough and will compare favorably to the work and standards of any other institution of its type.

The International Preparatory Institute promotes the highest standard in Christian character and seeks to develop a love for the finer and richer things of life, as well as to build a well-balanced spiritual and literary foundation.

The School is evangelical and evangelistic. It has a vision of the dying world, a world that is ill because of the effects of sin, recovering only through the preaching of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, and through Christian personal work.

"ESCALA AUNQUE LAS ROCAS SEAN ASPEARAS," meaning, "Go up the cliff, although the rocks may be

sharp," was the motto of the graduating class. Spanish students not knowing how to speak in the English language last fall talked to me in English, and English students were talking Spanish.

During the last six weeks of school, at school and at Spanish-speaking local churches, 109 souls were saved, 75 sanctified, and 39 filled with the Holy Ghost and fire. Five years ago when I.P.I. was started in San Antonio there was one white Church of God in the city. Now there are five, and three or four of them Spanish. The school has evangelists, youth directors, teachers, and preachers in the States, as well as missionaries on the mission field. The School is less than five years old, but already reaping a harvest. God only knows what the accomplishments are, what seed has already been planted and harvested for His glory.

You ask, "How do they do it?" The School is supported by the Church of God Missions Department and as God supplies their need through people such as gave in the offering on graduation night at I.P.I. In one offering from less than 250 people, over one thousand dollars was given. God supplies people such as Sister Gadsa, who raises and sells flowers and brings the money, about \$65 a month, to the school; the Darter family, who bought clothes and food for students in need and who have given hundreds of dollars to the cause; and members of the Missions Board, who not only give their time and drive long distances, but give more than most people realize. They gave more than \$50 each at this meeting, out of their own pockets. The Chairman raised the offering. Last, but not least, God has worked miraculously through the hard-working president, Brother Vessie D. Hargrave, and faculty.

This school is worth investigating and telling people about. For any missionary going out on the field, a period of time spent in this school may mean the difference between a successful missionary and a failure. Also, you who are giving to Missions and encouraging others to give with you, your knowledge of this school and its accomplishments will encourage you and help you.

—Vergil E. Wolf, Mansfield, Ohio.

THEY SAY ...

THE TRUE HERO Horace Bushnell

The true hero is the great wise man of duty—he whose soul is armed by truth and supported by the smile of God. He who meets life's perils with a cautious but tranquil spirit gathers strength by facing its storms, and dies, if he is called to die, as a Christian victor at the post of duty. And if we must have heroes and wars wherein to make them, there is not so brilliant war as a war with wrong, and no hero so fit to be sung as he

who has gained the bloodless victory of truth and mercy.

Why should anyone hear the gospel twice before everyone has heard it once?—Oswald J. Smith.

The greatest sit-down strike in the world is in our churches where those who claim to be saved have never yet become fishers of men.—Robert G. Lee.

I believe the true road to preeminent success in any line is to make yourself master of that line.—Andrew Carnegie

HER PRAISEWORTHY ODDITY

A company of ladies met at a minister's house. As he entered the room, he heard them speaking of an absent friend. "She's very odd!" said one. "She's very singular," said another. "Do you know she often does so and so?" said another, mentioning certain things to her discredit. The minister asked who it was. When told, he said, "Oh, yes, you are quite right. She is odd. She is singular. Why, would you believe it," he added, "she was never heard to speak ill of an absent friend!"

—S. S. Times.

PAUL'S THORN IN THE FLESH

Paul's thorn was not pleasant to him. He prayed to be rid of it. But when he found it had come to stay, he made friends with it swiftly. It was no longer how to dismiss, but how to entertain. He stopped groaning and began glorying. It was clear to him that it was God's will, and that meant new opportunity, new victory, new likeness to Christ. What God means is always too good to be lost, and is worth all it costs to learn. Let us learn swiftly as we may. Time is short.—Mattie B. Babcock, Gospel Herald.

PRAYING IN FAITH BELIEVING

By REV. M. D. HARWOOD

Praying in faith believing
That God will hear our cry,
And attend to our supplication;
Our petition He will not deny.

Praying in faith believing
That our prayer won't be vain;
Seeking according to His will,
Asking in His precious name.

Praying in faith believing
Our strength He will renew;
Our life will be enlightened,
As the Christian walk we pursue.

Praying in faith believing
Earthly fear will be abated.
For each trial, for each test,
Overcoming grace is prorated.

Praying in faith believing
For a closer walk with Thee;
Yielded completely, wholly united
That I'm in you, you in me.

JESUS IS COMING

By W. E. B.

"The book 'Jesus Is Coming,' by W. E. B., was the first book that made the coming of Jesus Christ a living reality to me. . . . It was this that first brought me to definite convictions and made the doctrine not only clear, but very precious. It is one of the books that has had a decidedly formative influence on my life and teaching. I always recommend it to those who are beginning the study of the subject. I hope that it may be as much blessed to others as it has been to me."—R. A. Torrey, Dean, Bible Institute of Los Angeles, Cal.

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NOT AN HIGH PRIEST WHICH CANNOT—

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to take cognizance of the falling sparrow and time to count the hairs of our head. You're depriving yourself, if you fail to touch Him!

What is more ecstatic than His touch? Nothing! I remember with accuracy the time I went bounding up the stairs of the hospital to see my son for the first time. It was our first-born and, like all fathers, I was over-anxious. I had no thought of getting to touch him, for the regulations of the hospital forbade that. But, fortunately (and I think providentially), I happened to go immediately following the nursing hour when all the babies were supposed to be back in their beds away from the touch and contamination of outsiders, and mine was the only one not returned to its appointed stall. With young mothers giggling at this foolish young father, I moved cautiously and carefully toward the bed. I had often wondered what a touch would feel like from his little hand. I remember distinctly getting my hand on the bed and sliding it imperceptibly, slowly toward his little foot. I was almost afraid to touch him. I felt like that was a holy moment, and I should be very reverent. When my finger touched his little toe, a thrill shot through me like an electric shock, and I honestly felt chills over me. Such is the thrill of the first touch of a baby!

But hear me, friend, that isn't even mentionable when describing the touch of the Master. How rapturous His touch! How invigorating! How inspiring! It is a heavenly touch, and nothing terrestrial can be likened unto it. All profound writers, realizing the futility of their attempts to unfold His ineffable loveliness, let fall their pens in utter helplessness; orators strain vainly for eloquence to explain it; prolific writers of music gasp hopelessly for arrangements of their sweetest notes to sing His praise; and all preachers realizing their inability to portray the thrill, sigh apologetically, and cry, "It's joy unspeakable and full of glory!"

There have been times in my ministry when nothing but the Nazarene's touch could suffice. When the battle was furious, members ungrateful, friends critical, problems unsolvable, troublous mountains insurmountable, sinners disinterested, and everyone, it

seemed, unconcerned, Christ was seen walking on the angry waves coming to my rescue. When I was sinking in deep despair in the waters of defeat, that punctured Hand was extended to me and Omnipotence lifted me from the slough of despond. Oh that touch! When my heart has been plowed through with grief, and I have felt I could fight no longer, I have gone to my study, prostrated myself before the Throne, and as my heart and the Spirit made groanings I could not utter, I was made aware of the presence of Another. And when this Visitor saw my bleeding heart, and taut nerves, and racked brain, and vexed soul, He performed spiritual surgery by a simple touch. He didn't have to scarify, nor prescribe, nor amputate, nor poultice, nor resort to any other human remedy, but He simply touched the heart, for He came to "bind up the broken hearted." He is the "Balm of Gilead" and has "eternal healing in His fingers." From my prayer I have gone with a new determination, and a new emotional drive, and with an endowment of power, right back into the hottest part of the conflict, determined to do great exploits for

Him.

Peradventure you are unsaved, reader, let me give you a word of warning. Many times you may have felt the touch of His hand, as He wooed around your sinful heart. There is a plant that responds freely to the touch of the human hand. Once it is touched, it trembles convulsively. Touch it again, and the action is repeated, but with a little less vigor. Touch it again and again, and it responds less with each touch. So it is with the human heart. God touches it with poignant conviction, and it trembles mightily under the moving of the Holy Spirit. Again God touches it, and there is less response. The touching is repeated until, eventually, the heart fails to feel the touch, and then God says, "Let him alone; he is joined to his idols." It's second to hell to have God say that about you. When that tragic thing happens to a human soul, it can go through the gates of hell laughing at its own doom. In tremendously perilous condition are you if you are **FOOLISHLY REJECTING THE SWEETEST THING IN ALL EARTH, AND HEAVEN**—the Galilean's touch. Respond today!

THE MERCIFUL CHRIST

(Continued from page 6)

ners that we love them and that we want them saved. Once a man was traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell among thieves who stripped him and wounded him, leaving him for dead. A priest came by and passed on the other side. Then a Levite came along who did likewise. But a Samaritan passed by and when he saw the wounded man he had compassion on him. He bound his wounds and cared for him, even to the extent of finding a place for the wounded man to stay.

Peter exhorts us, in 1 Peter 3:8, 9, "Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another; love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous: not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing." Jesus Christ, on one occasion, looked out over the city of Jerusalem and said these words in Matt. 23:37, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!"

Going back to the definition, we find that mercy also means active goodness. Thank God because He knows all about us and with every temptation there is a means of escape. He will never put on us more than we

can bear. Jesus always conquers Satan just at the right time. Truly, man's extremities are God's opportunities. Indeed greater is He that is within us than he that is in the world. The Spirit maketh intercession for us with groanings that cannot be uttered. Christ Himself sits on the right hand of God, the Father, and also maketh intercessions for us. Jesus is our advocate with the Father, and His blood is a standing propitiation for our sins. All of His paths are merciful and the invitation to the world is "whosoever will" can come and take of the water of life freely. How wonderful it is to know that we can cast our burdens on one who careth for us and sticks to us closer than a brother. Now we can truly say that Jesus is a merciful Christ who can be touched with the feeling of our infirmities. We can come boldly to the throne of grace and present our petitions. But let me say this: While He is now a God of mercy in this present, after death He becomes a God of judgment. Sinner, accept Him now while His hand of mercy is extended to you. Come as the publican in the temple who prayed thus, "God be merciful to me a sinner." Today is the day of salvation, for tomorrow may never come.

It is not enough for a gardener to love flowers; he must also hate weeds.

— — —
If you brood over your troubles, you will have a perfect hatch.—J. Hopkins.

Looking Back on the Pioneer Trail

... with Rev. and Mrs. Joel Stamper

REV. JOEL STAMPER,
407 N. Sawyer, Pryor, Okla.



"I was born in Lawrence County, Mo., Jan. 31, 1887. My mother passed away when I was eighteen months old. My father took us to the mountains of Kentucky, and I went to school at Campton. In 1909, I married Lucy Taulbee, and to this union were born five children, two girls and three boys. Two of them and their mother have gone to be with the Lord. Three children are still living, two girls and one boy. The children have all been saved, and the two girls have been filled with the Holy Ghost.

"I was saved when I was thirty-five years old, in South Lebanon, Ohio. Three weeks later I was sanctified, and in a few nights I received the wonderful Holy Ghost. In about a year the Lord showed me the great Church of God. I was licensed Dec. 4, 1931, and ordained Nov. 28, 1932. E. Haynes was my first overseer. One of my first revivals was in Murphy, Okla., where fifty-one were saved and sanctified, and thirty-two received the Holy Ghost. We set the church in order with thirty-two members. Hundreds of souls have been saved at this place. I have recently been in California where I was greatly encouraged to find souls that had been saved under my ministry in many of the states. The Church of God is still precious to their hearts.

"I am glad our young preachers don't have to suffer like the older

ones did. At my first church to pastor, one month I received 36c tithes, which I had paid into the treasury myself. I had one suit of clothes to wear, and I wore the knees of them out praying—not the seat. My wife patched the knees of my pants, and when blackberries got ripe we picked blackberries, sold them for 40c a gallon, and bought me a new pair of pants, and I finished my year there. Preachers, I didn't resign when hardships came, as some do today. Thank God, we stayed on the job, and they have a nice church building there today, worth several thousand dollars. We had to take the knee route in those days!"

Brother Stamper's work has mostly been evangelistic. His education has been limited (fourth grade), but God has helped him and blessed his ministry. He does not have an accurate record of how many churches he set in order, souls saved, sanctified, and baptized with the Holy Ghost, or how many sermons he preached. He says, "J. D. Wilson meant most to me, for he was the man that preached me under conviction and told me about the great Church of God. E. Haynes, state overseer of Ohio for years, was as a father to me. Most of my work has been in Ohio. The Church of God has made me what I am today, and I am expecting to be in it when the Lord comes after it. These years haven't all been roses, but, thank God, the presence of the Holy Ghost has been with me all the way. I have seen the time when it didn't look like life was much, then the Lord would deliver and show me just how sweet a life for Him is. Many times my family and I didn't know where the next meal was coming from, but it was always there. I am still in good health and still have the burden for the lost. I just came out of a revival at Ravia, Okla., and am ready to go anywhere for God and His church.

"My first wife died Aug. 7, 1949, in South Lebanon, Ohio. I came to Murphy, Okla., for a revival, and God gave me another good wife. She is the daughter of Rev. A. R. VanBrunt. We received him into the Church in 1924, and if I make no mistake, he remained faithful until his death. My wife has been a great blessing in the ministry to me. She sings the invitation songs. Many souls have been saved in our ministry together."

TESTIMONIES

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—I thank and praise the Lord Jesus for His tender mercies, for the way He answers prayer and heals our sick bodies. I thank Him for His saving grace.—Jessie Cox.

About 18 years ago I started out to live for God and do His biddings, and for the first few months after

being sanctified, I thought my trials and troubles were about over, but I didn't go very far until I found they had just begun. When those trials and temptations came, it drove me to my Bible, to the precious Word of God, and down on my knees in prayer. When I came to the place I could count all hardships and tests as joy, I was really happy then. I do thank Him for keeping me encouraged each day to press onward. My sister-in-law here in Scotland was brought into

the Church of God by my holding on to God in prayer in her behalf. The two of us are the only ones here who have the Holy Ghost and we need your prayers.—Georgia Johnson.

BAXLEY, Ga.—I praise the Lord for His great healing power. He has done so much for me. I was so nervous, and God really touched my body. Also, He has healed me in so many ways when I was suffering. I praise Him for healing my mother, father, and children. I can never thank Him enough.—Mrs. Elsie Ahl.

BROOKSVILLE, Fla.—I truly praise the Lord for saving me about 33 years ago and filling me with the Holy Ghost. I had been sick for 33 days, and I praise God for healing me. Please pray for my unsaved children.—Mrs. Tony Longworthy.

VICKSBURG, Miss.—I thank and praise God that I am still saved, sanctified, and filled with the Holy Ghost. I am confined to the bed and have been sick for several years. God has healed me many times, but it is hard to overcome the devil this time. I am asking everyone who reads this to please pray for me. I know Jesus can heal, for He has healed me before.—Mrs. D. A. Sanders.

LAKELAND, Ga.—I praise God for heartfelt salvation that keeps me happy every day. I praise Him for healing my back when Brother L. G. Rouse prayed for me.—Mrs. W. C. Rampy.

MIDDLETOWN, Ohio—I praise God for His saving and keeping power, also for His healing power. About a week ago my little boy's head was hurt, and for about 2 hours he was very sick with a high fever. I prayed and placed the Evangel on him; the fever left, and he went to sleep. Again this morning the boy had fever and was vomiting. My husband and I prayed and God answered. Please pray that God will completely heal him.—Mrs. Lee Moore.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

PRAY FOR:

The healing of my body.—Mrs. Nettie S. Garretson, Stephenson, W. Va.

Me. I have a nervous condition that is almost more than I can stand.—A believer, Talladega, Ala.

My son not to be taken into the Army, as he is the only child I have and I am a widow.—Ollie Williams, Haleyville, Ala.

The healing of my body; my unsaved friends; me to find a job.—Florence Easter, Mount Airy, N. C.

The Lord to heal my face.—Mrs. M. C. Jones, Dyersburg, Tenn.

My mother to be healed.—Mrs. B. J. Hale, Sylacauga, Ala.

My home that is about to be broken up.—A friend.

God to heal my feet and legs; my brothers and sisters to be healed and saved.—Maudie Martin, Altoona, Ala.

My mother to be saved and healed of inward cancer.—Mrs. Claude Healey, Leadsville, Ark.

The healing of my body.—Frank Yancey, Weatherford, Texas.

My niece to be saved and healed; her husband to be saved.—Amelia Sieber, Mobile, Ala.

The healing of my body; my two boys to be spared from the Army.—Mrs. C. W. Ledford, Shaw, Miss.

My children to be saved; me to be saved.—Mrs. Elizabeth Currey, Gainesville, Fla.

... Reports From the Field ...

CHURCH BLESSED WITH RETURN OF FORMER PASTOR

RICH HILL, Mo.—The church here was blessed in the beginning of this Assembly year when a former pastor and his good wife, Brother and Sister William Roberson, were sent back to us. They labored with us 2 years before, and we learned to love both of them. When Brother Roberson came to us before, he had just recovered from a fractured leg. The church was having services in a little low-ceiling hall upstairs, which was poorly ventilated. There was only one man and a boy of about 14 years of age who were members of the church at that time. The rest were women, but we were willing to go forward with a leader. Brother Roberson took the lead, and we started to work. Before he gave the church up March 23, 1947, we had bought a nice little church, and it was clear of debt, except \$60. Quite a large number had come into the church. Now, after 5 years, Brother Roberson has come back to be with us, and he has begun where he left off. We had a good revival in June. Some were saved, sanctified, baptized with the Holy Ghost, and 4 were added to the church. We have been needing a parsonage for a long time, so one morning Brother Roberson and one of the male members went to a sawmill and made arrangements to get lumber to start building. Then all became interested, and on March 17, we poured the foundation for the parsonage. All the work was donated, for which we praise the Lord. On May 31, Brother and Sister Roberson moved into their new home, and, although it wasn't finished, they were so happy and thankful that they were living in something that belonged to the church. It will cost approximately \$2,000. Pray that the Lord will continue to bless us at Rich Hill. —Mrs. Emily Cox, Clerk.

A NEW CHURCH IN JOANNA, S. C.

JOANNA, S. C.—A new church was organized in Joanna, S. C., June 3, 1951, from a revival conducted by Rev. Grady L. Waters, district overseer of the Laurens District, assisted by Rev. J. B. Cole, pastor of the Clinton Church. The church was organized with 14 members, and since then 8 more have united with the church. A Sunday School has been organized, also a Y. P. E. and L. W. W. B. We are now worshipping in a tent, but are looking forward to the erection of a new church building in the near future. —Robert A. Taylor, Pastor.

THE DAYS OF MIRACLE ARE NOT OVER FOR ADENTON, MD.

A little band of people got together and began having prayer meetings in Adenton, Md. The Lord was blessing

them wonderfully. I held a revival for them, in which there were 8 saved, 4 sanctified, 2 baptized with the Holy Ghost, and some wonderfully healed. Brother Lane, their state overseer, sent them a wonderful preacher, Brother and Sister Abbott, of Salisbury, Md., and a man gave them a beautiful lot for a church building in a nice grove. Pray for Adenton, Md. —Evangelist Eliza Mays, 1235 Broad St., Bristol, Tenn.

WISCONSIN STATE CONVENTION AND CAMP MEETING

We are rejoicing, for we feel, like Moses of old, that we have spoken face to face with God (Exod. 33:11).

The Wisconsin state convention and camp meeting, held at Mosinee, July 9-15, has made history. There were 14 saved, 17 sanctified, and 17 filled with the Holy Ghost. God is good to us. The Spirit-filled, God-inspired messages of our guest speaker, Rev. V. B. Rains, of Chattanooga, Tenn., are still burning in our hearts. Our good state overseer, Rev. E. D. Moore, saw that we had the best of everything in speakers, workers, and camp accommodations. Rev. C. W. Garnett, host pastor, was used mightily of God in raising funds for the pressing needs. We have still to see one more used of God in this way.

The state youth director, Rev. Bill Heron, presented a junior church program, with Sister Sande in charge. God blessed their efforts, and the power fell, saving, sanctifying, and filling a number of our children.

Rev. and Mrs. Houston R. Morehead were with us, also, and we were blessed much through his ministry. We were glad for our visiting state overseers, Rev. Nicholson, of Minnesota, and Rev. T. L. Forrester, of North and South Dakota.

Brother Moore is rejoicing much, for the revival fires kindled at the state convention are still burning. Reports are that in a recent fellowship meeting 5 were filled with the Holy Ghost. Rev. Garnett reports from Mosinee that in a combined D.V.B.S. and revival, 6 were saved, 12 sanctified, and 12 filled with the Holy Ghost. We are glad for what God is doing in Wisconsin. Just give us room and watch us grow! —Reporter.

SOUTHWEST GEORGIA DISTRICT CAMP MEETING AND CONVENTION

The Southwest Georgia District camp meeting convened at Cairo, June 4-10. The camp meeting speaker, Rev. A. H. Batts, of Chattanooga, Tenn., was at his best in every service. He preached over Station WGRA each morning and in the evening services. This was one of the greatest camp meetings South Georgia has ever had. The spirituality was very high. There was a spirit of unity and love which

made one feel proud to belong to such a fine group of people. Our district overseer, Brother Clyde N. Bolt, did a very efficient job as director of the entire meeting. He had the full cooperation of the ministers and laymen as well. Many visiting ministers came from various places to be in this camp meeting, which proved a great blessing. Special singing was rendered by various groups of different churches. Earl Causey, our district Sunday School and Y.P.E. superintendent, was in charge.

The district convention opened on Saturday afternoon, which gave a wonderful climax to our camp meeting. The welcome address was given by Brother Bolt, and then the service was turned over to the state overseer, Rev. E. L. Simmons, who brought a very needful and timely message on "The Church of God and Its Teachings." All who heard him were blessed and inspired. Saturday evening our speaker was Brother Lee Walton. The building was not large enough to accommodate the crowds that came for these services.

Sunday was a high day in Zion. The people came expecting God to move and bless in a special way, and that He did. Brother Simmons brought the morning message, and the subject was on missions. The Lord spoke to people, and our offering broke all records. The floor offering and special offerings from each church made a total of over \$600. On Sunday afternoon each pastor had a good report from his church, after which our state L.W.W.B. president, Sister E. L. Simmons, spoke to the ladies of the various churches. We enjoyed the message. Much good was accomplished.

PENTECOSTAL FELLOWSHIP MEETING A SUCCESS

AKRON, Ohio—The South Akron, Ohio, Church of God, 1930 Manchester Road, was honored to have the first Pentecostal fellowship meeting in Akron, Ohio, and Summit County, July 16, 1951. The names of churches and pastors that cooperated in this meeting are: Revs. Jesse Lavender, pastor, East Market Street Church of God; John S. Turner, pastor, Pentecostal Church of Christ; Virgil Akins, pastor, Mogadore, Ohio, Church of God; Frank Blessing, pastor, Assembly of God; Albert Osborne, pastor, Original Mountain Assembly Church of God; O. N. Dobbins, pastor, Assembly of God; and other ministers of like faith. Rev. R. C. Triplett, Pentecostal radio preacher, was the moderator. The Lord surely did bless us, and all the ministers testified of enjoying the meeting. Revs. Ward and Blessing did the preaching. Rev. McKinley Baird, pastor of the South Akron Church of God, made everyone feel welcome. Pray for these meetings that they will be a success for the Lord. —A. C. Stanfill, Reporter.

Editorials . . .

STREAMLINING

Streamlining has become one of the most prevalent fads and customs of this modern day. In the mechanical field it is resorted to for beauty, economy, and appeal to the public, as seen in cars, trains, planes, ships, etc. Then, too, there is the constant effort at streamlining by the stout people, while the thin are trying to add weight. Streamlining is also in evidence in our educational system to a very noticeable extent. But the streamlining I am concerned about in this article is in neither of these fields, but rather in that of the church—its doctrines, teachings, and practices of old time religion as a whole.

It is true that Bible mathematics instruct that we "put off," "lay aside," "forget the things of the past," "for-sake" the persons and things that would hold us in servitude to sin and Satan and the sinful world, but nowhere are we instructed to, at any time, discard or discontinue those things that, from the beginning, have been essential to our becoming Christians and maintaining the Christian life and victory. Neither does the Bible inform us that the time would come when the literal church should be disbanded and emphasis placed only on developing the spiritual membership by evangelistic efforts, leaving the people who profess Christian faith unaffiliated with a church home, therefore orphaned like sheep without a shepherd. It would be equally as impossible to find in the Holy Bible the least bit of encouragement for those who "despise government" that church government would be eventually consigned to the morgue as a dead and useless thing in the affairs of the church. The same is true of the doctrines and teachings of the Church of God. Therefore, to divest Christianity of any of these cardinal essentials would be as disastrous to the church for which Jesus Christ died as stripping a ship of engines, propellers, compass, captain, and pilot, leaving it to drift on high sea.

I have observed for over a quarter of a century that those, generally, who oppose church organization, anathematizing it with such slanderous titles as "the great whore," "Babylon," etc., have either been disfellowshipped from a denomination or held such perverted opinions that they could not be received by the truly Christian denomination. The matter of divine sanction and approval in literal church organization, conducted in full harmony with the apostolic church, is indisputably established by the revelation that God gave to Jesus, Jesus gave to the angel, the angel gave to John, and John wrote unto the pastors of seven churches right on earth. Read the first three chapters of Revelation.

It is nothing unusual for people who do not believe in church organization to despise government; but they are not the only ones who hold a disrespectful attitude, for those who actually cause most trouble are those right in the church who despise government because of their insubordinate disposition through objection to it or those (3 John 9, 10) whose duty it is to exercise it. Generally, those who are so bold as to defy and despise government do it because they object to being governed. Let them be the

governors, and they are one hundred per cent for it. Simon Peter rightly described them in 2 Peter 2:10, "But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous are they, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities." If people of these warped and antagonistic tendencies toward indispensable and divinely invested factors of the church could carry out their process of streamlining, there would be little more left for the devil to do to destroy it.

Now about those who would streamline the church of its doctrines. In the first place, it is regrettable to have to admit that there are those within the church, as well as out of it, who have been resorting to every subtle tactic possible to divest the church of its doctrines, and the regrettable thing about it is that to some extent they have been successful, all along, from the very beginning of the church. Those who would, and there are many who would, streamline the Church of its doctrines and teachings are no less enemies to it than those are to the United States who would streamline its Constitution; and we know that if such were done our nation could be changed into any form of God-hating government, and its citizens robbed completely of every vestige of human and spiritual liberty. But the poverty that such would impose on our nation would be no greater than that on the Church if our doctrines and teachings were streamlined. It would be dead and corrupt. It is no small wonder that Jude exhorted us to "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." Then, too, you remember that Paul wrote to Timothy, in 1 Tim. 4:16, "Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee." These verses alone constitute a sufficient prohibition against streamlining the Bible. There is no hope for the Church apart from the Bible rightly divided.

THEY SAY

A new dictionary has been issued by the Soviet State Publishing House which defines the word 'BIBLE' (being included as one of the 20,000 'foreign' words of which this dictionary is composed) as: 'A collection of fantastic legends without any scientific support . . . full of dark hints, historical mistakes and contradictions.'

Walt Dinsey's 'Snow White' has been banned from authorized book list of reading fit for Communist consumption, because the Prince is not a 'People's Hero.'

Communists of Czechoslovakia are studying the Bible, with the ulterior motive of perusing Czech peasants that the 'Red' Government's methods are scriptural.

We must 'rightly divide the Word of God' (2 Tim. 2:15).

"Do not fear, you Christians. The Spirit of God has not lost His power. In His own good time, He will send His messengers even to a wicked and adulterous and careless generation."—Dr. J. Gresham Machen.

"The love of Christ is like the blue sky into which you may see clearly, but the real vastness of which you cannot measure."—Robert Murray McChesney.

"Never suffer your goods to become your god."—C. H. Spurgeon.

"Do not be satisfied to be a reflector of Christ: rather seek to be a radiator."

Prayer of a soldier: "Oh, Lord, don't let nothin' get hold of me that you an' me can't handle."

"While the world is at its worst, the church must be at its best."

THOUGHT PROVOKERS

RELIGION IN SCHOOLS

A decision of the New York State Court of Appeals last week promised a way around the Supreme Court's famous *McCullum* opinion of 1948. That case outlawed the releasing of school children for religious classes in Champaign, Ill., calling the practice a violation of the Constitution, which guarantees separation of church and state.

Denying the appeal of two Brooklyn parents, the court noted principal differences in the Champaign and New York programs: In New York, students are released from school to attend outside religious classes. In Champaign, released-time training took place in school classrooms and some public funds were used.

Associate New York Judge Charles W. Froessel said it was clear "that the Constitution does not demand that every friendly gesture between church and state shall be discountenanced. This so-called 'wall of separation' may be built so high... as to impair both state and church, as we have come to know them."—*Pathfinder*.

IN "CHRISTIAN" AMERICA

"In Miami, Florida, an organization to auction off young unmarried men as husbands to wealthy women tourists began operations on a large scale recently," states *Our Hope*. "These men, recruited by advertisements soliciting young men who would like to marry and get rich, are literally put up for sale. The only requirements made of them are that they must give themselves to the highest bidders for them, and they must give ten per cent of their purchase price to the auctioneer. The balance they may keep for themselves.

"The same organization offers some balm to the men who are dissatisfied with their buyers, on account of age or appearance. Says its spokesman: 'We might be able to help the young men out later, if they want a divorce.'"

Comments Wilbur M. Smith: "This sort of thing is nothing less than legalized prostitution. It is a sign of the decaying morality of the American people and a sign of the fast-approaching end of this present age. 'Marrying and giving in marriage.'"

BIBLE A LA RusSE

Webster's New International Dictionary defines the Bible as "the book made up of the writings accepted by Christians as inspired by God and of divine authority." But a new—and less objective—Russian dictionary, issued recently by the Soviet State Publishing House in Moscow, calls the Bible: "A collection of fantastic legends without any scientific support. It is full of dark hints, historical mistakes and contradictions. It serves as a factor for gaining power and subjugating the unknowing nations."

CHRISTIAN READINESS

(Continued from page 5)

tional, invigorating and stimulating for the saints, and the hope of all Christians.

We must be ready to enter His glory. Yes, the summary of this brief message is to be, first, ready to answer; second, ready to preach; third, ready to distribute; fourth, ready for every good work; fifth, ready to die; sixth, ready to meet the Lord; and seventh, ready to enter into glory. Let us keep this paramount in our lives until He shall say, "It is enough."—From "The Voice."

It is better to walk by faith than to talk of faith.



BELL

David Virgil Bell, a member of the Church of God at Cairo, Ga., went to be with Jesus, July 26, 1951, at the age of 16 years. He was drowned while swimming in Lake Bradford, at Tallahassee, Fla. He will be greatly missed by his church, for he was a good altar worker. Those left to mourn his passing are his parents, 2 brothers, and 3 sisters. Funeral services were conducted by the pastor, Rev. C. N. Bolt.

MILLS

James Walter Mills, of Cairo, Ga., father of Rev. Drew Mills, passed away July 13, 1951, at the age of 81 years. He is survived by his widow, 4 daughters, and one son. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. C. N. Bolt.

PENNLEY

Mrs. W. E. Pennley, age 66, departed this life July 8, 1951. She will be missed by friends and relatives. She was a faithful member of the Biltmore, N. C., Church of God.—P. A. Howard, Pastor.

CULPEPPER

Rev. D. C. Culpepper, a faithful minister of the Church of God, passed away Aug. 6, 1951, to be with the Lord, at the age of 78. He trusted God to the end.—H. D. Wheelis, His Pastor.

CLARK

Funeral services for James Willard Clark, age 26 years, who was killed in a truck accident Aug. 13, 1951, were held at the Providence Church, Aug. 15. He is survived by his wife and one son. Rev. C. N. Bolt officiated.

COLE

James Monroe Cole, a faithful member of the Church of God at LaGrange, Ga., passed on to his reward Aug. 4, 1951, at the age of 68 years. Those who knew him will long remember his good Christian life and inspiring testimonies. Even after he became ill he came to church as long as he could get there. He kept the faith until the end and finished his course as a great Christian soldier. He

is survived by his wife and 2 children. Funeral services were conducted at Argon, Ga., by Rev. C. N. Bolt.

KIDD

Rev. F. C. Kidd passed away to be with Jesus, July 11, 1951, at the age of 63 years. Brother Kidd had been a minister in the Church of God for several years. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Lora Kidd, 5 daughters, 4 sons, 18 grandchildren, and a host of friends. He was laid to rest at the Green Lawn Cemetery, Bakersfield, Calif.—His daughter, Mrs. L. E. Stephens, sons.

ASHER

Rev. G. G. Asher, of Ft. Worth, Texas, died Aug. 4, 1951. He became a licensed minister of the Church of God, March 25, 1917, and was ordained July 9, 1940. He is minister number 489.

OGDEN

Sister Susan Minton Ogden, age 73, died after a short illness in the Valdosta, Ga., hospital, June 2, 1951. She was a member of the Piney Grove Church of God. A good Christian wife and mother, she was well loved by all who knew her. Her stay in our church and community had been a little more than 2 years. She had made many friends and was loved by all who knew her. She always greeted us with her good Christian smile, and is greatly missed in our church. Her funeral was conducted in Statesville, Ga., Methodist Church by her pastor, Rev. Paul Fowler, assisted by her former pastor, Rev. A. J. Porter. She is survived by her husband, 4 sons, and 3 daughters.—Mrs. Shelly Ogden, Odum, Ga.

BELBA

Rev. Michael D. Belba, age 35 years, died of a heart attack June 23, 1951. He is survived by his wife, the former Velta Harvey, of Wapato, Wash.; one small son, and relatives in Ohio. He was a faithful member of the Church of God. A graduate of Lee College, Brother Belba did much for God during his short life. He served as youth director of Washington for a time, and pastored churches after coming to the Northwest. At the time of his death he was pastoring the Church of God in Hermiston, Ore. He and Sister Belba have worked hard there, and God has richly blessed their efforts. Funeral services were held in Wapato, Wash. The officiating ministers were Rev. F. W. Goff, state overseer, and Rev. Johnny Thompson, youth director.

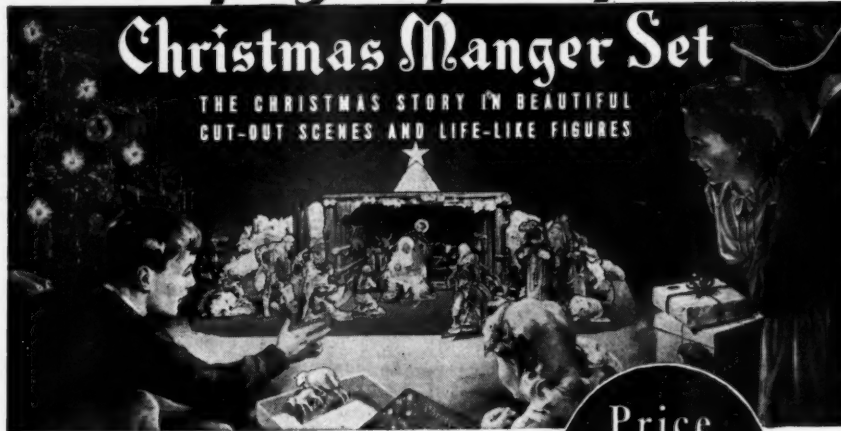
ERVIN

The Church of God at Amelia, Va., suffered the loss of a dear brother in Christ, Boyd E. Ervin, on the night of July 31, 1951. He was a faithful member of the Church of God and was loved by all who knew him. He is survived by his wife, 2 daughters, 4 grandchildren, and a host of friends and relatives. Funeral services were conducted by the pastor, Rev. J. L. McKay, and Rev. T. O. Dennis, pastor of the Church of God in Danville, Va. We feel that our loss is heaven's gain.—Mrs. Ernestine Wagner, Amelia, Va.

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